

Message Text

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21

ACTION EUR-12

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BTRA, PO

SUBJ: DESIRE OF LEADERS OF PORTUGUESE INDUSTRIAL CONFEDERATION
TO MEET WITH TOP LEVEL USG POLITICAL LEADERS TO DISCUSS
PORTUGUESE SITUATION

REF: LISBON 4860, 4881, 4927, 4954, STATE 251799, 252827

1. JOSE VAZ PEREIRA, PUBLIC RELATIONS ADVISOR TO PORTUGUESE INDUSTRIAL CONFEDERATION (CIP), WHICH REPRESENTS SOME 47,000 FIRMS, AND IS COMPARABLE TO NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF MANUFACTURERS, CALLED ON EMBASSY LAST WEEK TO REQUEST EMBASSY ASSISTANCE IN ARRANGING INTERVIEWS FOR CIP EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE WITH HIGH-LEVEL USG POLITICAL LEADERS IN ORDER TO EXPLAIN FROM PERSPECTIVE OF LOCAL PRIVATE ENTERPRISE RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN PORTUGAL.

2. THREE-MAN GROUP WHICH PLANS TO TRAVEL TO US IS SAME ONE (ANTONIO VASCO DE MELLO, MIGUEL DE STTAU MONTEIRO AND JOSE MANUEL DE MORAIS CABRAL) WHICH RECENTLY VISITED STATES TO TALK WITH ECONOMIC LEADERS ON PORTUGUESE ECONOMIC SITUATION (SEE REFTELS). CIP ON THAT OCCASION DID NOT HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO DELVE INTO THE POLITICAL SITUATION IN PORTUGAL IN THE DEPTH IT WOULD HAVE LIKED TO, AND HENCE WOULD LIKE TO RETURN FOR THIS PURPOSE. DELEGATION HAS VISITED OR SOON WILL TRAVEL TO LONDON, AMSTERDAM, PARIS, BRUSSELS, FRANKFURT AND BONN TO
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DISCUSS SAME THEMES.

3. TENTATIVE PLANS OF GROUP ARE TO TRAVEL TO WASHINGTON AFTER NEW YEAR AND TO REMAIN 10 WORKING DAYS. CIP DOES NOT WANT TO MAKE ANY ARRANGEMENTS FOR THIS TRIP THROUGH EITHER FOREIGN MINISTRY OR PORTUGUESE EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON. EXPLANATION THEY OFFER IS THAT SOCIALISTS CONTROL BOTH AND THAT WHILE THEY WOULD NOT IMPEDE GROUP'S EFFORTS TO EXPLAIN FROM PRIVATE ENTERPRISES' POINT OF VIEW WHAT IS HAPPENING IN PORTUGAL, THEY WOULD NOT HELP THEM IN ANY MEANINGFUL WAY. THEREFORE CIP REQUESTS USG ASSISTANCE IN ARRANGING MEETINGS WITH FOLLOWING SENATORS AND CONGRESSMEN: HOUSE: HENRY B. GONCALVES; THOMAS E. MORGAN; BENJAMIN S. ROSENTHAL, HARLEY O. STAGGERS; HENRY REUSS; CHARLES C. DIGGS; SENATE: ADALI STEVENSON; DANIEL K. INOUE; JOHN SPARKAMN; CLIFFORD CASE, WARREN G. MAGNUSON; WILLIAM PROXMIRE; HUMPHREY; KEDNNEDY; PERCY; CHURCH; JACOB JAVITS.

4. OTHER OFFICIALS WITH WHOM GROUP WOULD LIKE TO MEET ARE: WILLIAM R. PEARCE AND HAROLD B. MALMGREN OF OFFICE OF SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE FOR TRADE NEGOTIATIONS; ROBERT H. ENSLOW, OFFICE OF FOREIGN DIRECT FOREIGN INVESTMENTS IN COMMERCE; FORREST E. ABBUHL, OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE POLICY IN COMMERCE; ROBERT H. BINDER, ASST. SECY. FOR POLICY, PLANS AND INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS, DEPT. OF TRANSPORTATION; JOAO ILIVEIRA SANTOS, MANAGER, OPERATIONS DEPT., INTER-AMERICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK; AND L.A. WHITTOME, DIRECTOR, EUROPEAN DEPARTMENT, INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND.

5. CIP WOULD ALSO LIKE TO MEET WITH AMB. MCCLOSKEY AND OTHERS IN DEPARTMENT WHO WOULD BE INTERESTED IN THEIR VIEWS, AND PLANS TO HOLD A PRESS CONFERENCE (WHICH THEY WILL ARRANGE) AT OVERSEAS PRESS CLUB ON PORTUGUESE SITUATION.

6. CIP SAYS THAT WHILE THEY PREFER NOT TO WORK THROUGH THE FOREIGN MINISTRY IN ARRANGING THIS TRIP, THERE IS NO OPPOSITION ON PART OF GOVERNMENT TO THEIR VISIT. IN FACT, THEY HAVE BEEN IN CONTACT WITH VITOR ALVES AND THE PRIME MINISTER ABOUT IT, AND WILL KEEP THEM INFORMED OF THEIR ACTIVITIES.

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7. ACTION REQUESTED: THAT DEPARTMENT CONTACT ABOVE-MENTIONED INDIVIDUALS TO ARRANGE FOR SESSIONS WITH CIP GROUP DURING PERIOD JAN. 13-24. CIP WILL SEND ADVANCE MAN TO US TO COORDINATE AND MAKE OTHER ARRANGEMENTS AS NECESSARY IN FIRST WEEK OF JANUARY.

8. COMMENT: CIP, WHICH HAS JUST JOINED GENEVA-BASED INTERNATIONAL EMPLOYERS ORGANIZATION (ASSOCIATION OF 87

BUSINESSMEN'S FEDERATIONS IN 79 COUNTRIES), IS AN IMPORTANT GROUP WHICH WE BELIEVE CONGRESSMEN AND OTHERS WOULD BENEFIT FROM MEETING. THEY WILL UNDOUBTEDLY ATTEMPT TO CONVINCE THEIR LISTENERS OF THE PORTUGUESE CASE FOR USG ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE AND REASSURE THEM REGARDING DEGREE OF COMMUNIST INFLUENCE IN GOP. THEY ARE UNIQUELY PLACED TO BE ABLE TO ANSWER QUESTIONS ABOUT FOREIGN INVESTMENT CLIMATE AND INVESTMENT GUARANTEES IN WHICH CONGRESSMEN'S BUSINESS CONSTITUENTS MAY BE INTERESTED. ALL OF GROUP SPEAK ENGLISH. GROUP DOES NOT REPRESENT ANY ORGANIZED POLITICAL PARTY AND WILL SPEAK FOR THEIR ORGANIZATION ONLY.

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